Statement of Intent between NOAA and the Bureau of Meteorology Tsunami Warning System

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement on Technical Cooperation in Meteorology, Oceanography and Hydrology (MOA) between the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States of America (NOAA) and the Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology (the Bureau) signed March 2006, NOAA and the Bureau agree to pursue cooperation related to the science and technology of tsunami: detection, analysis, forecast, warning, communications, mitigation and preparedness, including, but not limited to:

- Technical collaboration in tsunami detection, analysis, forecast, and warning technologies, methods, and approaches:
 - Information exchange to allow the Bureau to make deep ocean buoy network design choices and to strategize acquisition, deployment and life cycle support arrangements
 - Cooperation in technology development to advance the transition of Deep- ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunami (DART) II Easy to Deploy (ETD) to operational status
 - Facilitate the acquisition by the Bureau of DART II ETD and DART
 II Standard stations in support of the ATWS
 - d. Cooperation on DART technology refinement and evolution
 - e. Support for development of the Bureau's capability for DART II deployments, maintenance, and data ingestion
 - f. Cooperation on analyzing, forecasting and warning tsunami events through the use of observations and forecast models, including the development of community models
 - G. Cooperation on forecast and warning center operations, including data digestion, decision processes and warning procedures
- Activities to strengthen the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (PTWS) through the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's Intergovernmental Coordination Group (ICG) for the PTWS, World Meteorological Organization, and bilateral cooperation:
 - a. Augmentation of the PTWS observational network in the southwest Pacific Ocean

- Long term cooperation on operations and maintenance of the southwest Pacific portion of the ATWS and the US DART array
- Support and augmentation of Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) to analyze and forecast tsunami events through the use of observations and forecast models
- Collaboration on capacity building and technology transfer in the Pacific Ocean region
- Activities to support development of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System through the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's Intergovernmental Coordination Group World Meteorological Organization, and bilateral cooperation:
 - Long term cooperation on operations and maintenance of ATWS deep ocean stations
 - Support development and sustainability of the IOTWS core deep ocean tsunami detection station array
 - Collaboration on IOTWS standards, protocols, interoperability and instrument intercomparisions in support of the IOC framework for the global tsunami and other ocean related hazards early warning system
 - Collaboration on capacity building and technology transfer in the Indian Ocean region
 - e. Collaboration on analyzing and forecasting tsunami events through the use of observations and models

These activities are of high priority for the Bureau and NOAA and are expected to lead to the signature of Implementing Arrangements under the MOA. It is also expected that these activities will advance Australian and U.S. interests in regional and global tsunami warning systems and support the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS).

FOR THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY

Brig. Gen. D.L. Johnson, USAF (Ret.)

Dr Geoff Love

DATE: 24 March 2006

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PLACE: Melbourne

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